

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1-12 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Claims 13-18 have been added to assure Applicants the degree of protection to which their invention entitles him

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only to assure grammatical and idiomatic English and improved form under United States practice, and are not made to distinguish the invention over the prior art or narrow the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 3 U.S.C. §112 due to particular wording. The courtesy of the Examiner in suggesting amended wording is acknowledged with appreciation. The Examiner's suggestion has been substantially adopted. It is accordingly submitted that this rejection is overcome.

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ballard, U.S. Patent No. 6,182,050, in view of Lavey, Jr., et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,023,698. Claims 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ballard and Lavey in further view of Dias, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,119,143. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The claimed invention is directed to a calculation service providing system and method. In an exemplary embodiment, the system includes a network, a plurality of calculation servers, a Web server, and a plurality of terminals.

Each calculation server stores one or more applications for providing calculation service. The Web server stores and makes available for downloading on the network one or more procedure data files. Each procedure data file describes procedure data defining a calculation service using one or more of the applications stored in one or more of the calculation servers. Each terminal executes a procedure processing program to cause one or more of the calculation servers to execute one or more of the stored applications on the basis of procedure data described in a procedure data file downloaded from the Web server.

The claimed system, thus, includes (1) a network, (2) a plurality of calculation servers, (3) a Web server, and (4) a plurality of terminals.

Ballard discloses distribution of advertisements on-line, using target criteria screening, while maintaining privacy. Ballard's system includes (1) a network, (2) a host system or Web server, and (3) a plurality of end user computers or terminals. Ballard has no calculation servers. It is noted that Ballard's host system can not be the claimed calculation servers, since there is not a plurality of host systems.

The Office Action contends that Ballard shows calculation servers at column 5, lines 14-64 and column 11, lines 10-29. This contention is traversed. That portion of Ballard describes his system as including a wide area network 10, network server computers 12, client computers 14, and a remote network, such as a local area network 16. There are no calculation servers. Alternatively, if the network server computers 12 are considered to be calculation servers, then Ballard's system has no Web server.

Lavey, Jr., et al. discloses a system and method for transparently registering and updating information over the Internet. Lavey does not show both a Web server and a

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plurality of calculation servers.

Likewise, Dias et al. does not disclose both a Web server and a plurality of calculation servers.


In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-18, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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